

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01 AID-20

IO-12 EUR-25 DPW-01 NIC-01 RSR-01 ( ADP ) W

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P R 110832 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1524

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 8324

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS

SUBJECT: CEASEFIRE AND POLITICAL SITREP MR I, MAY 10, 1973

FOL TEL SENT ACTION IMMEDIATE SAIGON FROM DANANG DTD MAY 10, 1973  
RPTD TO YOU FOR YOUR INFO

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L DANANG 0506

### 1. SECURITY SITUATION:

CEASE FIRE VIOLATIONS REPORTED AT I CORPS BRIEFING FELL TO A  
NEW LOW OF FIVE, ALL ATTACKS BY FIRE ( ABF) TOTALLING 138  
MORTAR ROUNDS. FOUR OF THE FIVE WERE IN FIRST DIVISION AO.  
CASUALTIES CORPS- WIDE WERE: FRIENDLY 3 KIA, 21 WIA; ENEMY  
9 KIA, 1 CAPTURED, 1 RETURNEE. FRIENDLY ARTILLERY FIRED  
1,147 ROUNDS; 462 NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS, 685 SOUTH ( OF  
WHICH SECOND DIVISION FIRED 628).

### 2. PRISONER RELEASE PROBLEMS:

PLANNED RELEASE OF PRISONERS ON THACH HAN RIVER IN QUANG TRI  
MAY 9 RAN INTO PROBLEMS. GVN PLANNED TO RELEASE 250, ALL OF  
WHOM WERE WOMEN, PLUS AN ADDITIONAL 32 CHILDREN. WHEN FIRST  
GROUP OF 25 REACHED NORTH BANK AND BEFORE PASSING INTO PRG  
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CONTROL, 11 " RALLIED." GVN ATTEMPTED TO RETURN THEM IMMEDIATELY TO SOUTH BANK BUT PRG REFUSED SAYING ALL 250 MUST BE RETURNED BEFORE THE QUESTION OF RALLIERS WOULD BE CONSIDERED. GVN REFUSED TO CONTINUE REPATRIATION UNTIL 11 WERE ALLOWED TO RE- CROSS RIVER. NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUED UNSUCCESSFULLY INTO THE EVENING AND CONTINUE TODAY. FIRST GROUP OF 25 PLUS GVN GUARDS SPENT THE NIGHT ON THE NORTH BANK; REMAINDER OF THOSE TO BE RELEASED SPENT THE NIGHT ON TRUCKS ON THE SOUTH BANK. GVN OFFICIALS HAVE INDICATED TO CONGEN POLOFF THAT THEY EXPECT A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER MORE TO RALLY WHEN RELEASE IS REINITIATED.

3. GVN MILITARY ACTIVITIES:

VC/ NVA SUPPLY ROUTES UP AND DOWN THE SONG VE RIVER VALLEY, SOME 20 KILOMETERS SOUTH OF QUANG NGAI CITY, ARE BEING DISRUPTED BY THE PRESENCE OF THE 69 TH RANGER BATTALION IN A BLOCKING POSITION AND EXTENSIVE SEARCH OPERATIONS OF THE 2 ND BATTALION, 6 TH ARVN REGIMENT. ACCORDING TO SECTOR INFORMATION AS REPORTED TO AREA DIRECTOR QUANG NGAI, THE 141 ST NVA REGIMENT HAS BEEN UNABLE TO SEND TRANSPORT TROOPS TO PICK UP RICE BROUGHT FORM NORTHEAST MO DUC DISTRICT BECAUSE OF THE DISRUPTION.

4. COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES:

A. THE VC ARE HARASSING THE RECENTLY RETURNED VILLAGES OF SON HOA, SON MY AND SON QUANG IN EASTERN SON TINH DISTRICT, QUANG NGAI ( REF DANANG 494). AREA DIRECTOR QUANG NGAI REPORTS THAT THE PEOPLE ARE APPREHENSIVE ABOUT VC INTERFERENCE AND ABOUT THE MINES AND BOOBY TRAPS WHICH MAKE WORKING THE FIELDS DANGEROUS. ALTHOUGH THE VC LOCAL FORCES AND GUERRILLAS HERE ARE WEAK AND POPULAR FORCES IN THE THREE RETURNED VILLAGES HAVE BEEN REINFORCED, NIGHT ENTRIES INTO THE SITES CONTINUE. IN ONE INSTANCE THE VC CALLED INDIVIDUALS BY NAME AND IN ANOTHER INCITED THE VILLAGERS AGAINST THEIR CHIEF, WHO HAS BEEN ACCUSED OF POCKETING PAYMENTS FOR COMMUNAL LAND PURCHASES. THOMSEN UNQUOTE  
WHITEHOUSE

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NMAFVVZCZ

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